# TERROR TALES

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MONSTER IN CLOTH!
POLICE
MARCHIONNE

THE DOCTORS HAD REASON FOR PUZZLEMENT. PROF. WILSON WAS IN CHARGE OF THE EXPEDITION THAT UNCOVERED THE TOMB OF KA, PHAROAH OF EGYPT AND WAS THE ONLY ONE ALIVE WHILE THE OTHERS DIED UNDER STRANGE CIRCUMSTANCES. LATER THAT NIGHT OUTSIDE WILSON'S ROOM...

...YOU ... MUST STAY WITH ... ME... AS THE ... CURSE... DEMANDS!
EEEEEEEYYYAAAHH!
CRAASH!
TINK!
TINKLE!
THE MONSTER AND ITS PREY ESCAPE IN THE NIGHT LEAVING A PUZZLED HOSPITAL STAFF!
OFFICER THE THING AND PROF. WILSON HEADED IN THE DIRECTION OF THE SCIENCE MUSEUM!
THANKS DOC! THIS IS AN ALERT SEND UNITS TO THE SCIENCE MUSEUM!
AND WITHIN MINUTES
PROF. WILSON MENTIONED SOMETHING ABOUT A CURSE ... THAT WHOEVER ENTERS KA'S TOMB, DIES BY THE HAND OF KA... BUT ... BUT ITS PREPOSTEROUS!
MR. PARKINS WE'RE TAKING A LOOK AT THIS EGYPTIAN ROOM!
W-WHAT WAS THAT?
I CAN GUES GUESS COME ON HURRY!!
AAAEEEEEEAAAYYYAAHH!
CRIII..IIK!
CRIK!
AAAAARRGGHH!
THERE! THERE'S PROF. WILSON! HE'S BEEN PUT ON A RACK! RACK!
GET BACK! THAT THING IS COMING TOWARDS US! OPEN FIRE!!
UGRRH!

THE NIGHTMARE CREATURE SPRANG AT THE GROUP OF DETERMINED MEN AND LIFTED ONE OF THEM HIGH IN THE AIR, ITS TERRIBLE SINEWS CRACKLING WITH UNNATURAL STRENGTH!
USE THE IBSIS! OVER THERE... QUICKLY! IT... ITS CALLED THE WAND OF LIFE!
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
BUT THE MONSTER ADVANCED ON THE YOUNG DOCTOR, GIANT HANDS TIGHTENED ON HIS THROAT... SQUEEZING... SQUEEZING.
THE IBSIS! USE THE IBSIS! HOLD IT IN FRONT OF KA!
I HOPE IT WORKS!
NOW... YOU... SHALL... DIE! YOU... SHALL... KNOW THE... POWER OF... KA... WHEN YOU DEFY!
GET BACK! BACK OR I'LL FLING THIS THING IN YOUR FACE!
UGH! TAKE IT AWAY... FROM... MY ...SIGHT!
I... I... CANNOT... FIGHT THE POWER OF... LIFE... THE CURSE...
...I'M BEING... REDUCED... TO ASHES... TAKE... IBSIS... AWAY!
...NOTHING BUT ASHES LEFT! FANTASTIC! HEY, FREE PROF. WILSON FROM THE RACK!
THE IBSIS WORKED! FOR A MOMENT I THOUGHT I WAS DONE FOR... BETTER HIM THAN ME! AS THE SAYING GOES!
THE END

# Satan's CURSE

ALL THAT HOWEVER, WAS BEFORE THE ARRIVAL AT THE FORT OF CAPTAIN JOHN MACGREGOR OF THE EIGHTH CAVALRY...

CAPTAIN, I WANT TO INTRODUCE MY DAUGHTERS... SANDRA AND LOUISE.

I AM CHARMED.

THE ARRIVAL OF CAPTAIN MACGREGOR HAD PLEASED THE COLONEL CONSIDERABLY AND HE ENTERTAINED HIM OFTEN AT HIS RESIDANCE HE HAD FAILED TO SEE THAT FOR THE GIRLS THE ARRIVAL OF ONE HANDSOME MAN WAS WORSE THAN BOREDOM.

THERE WAS OF COURSE, NO OPEN BREAK AT FIRST, RATHER EACH GIRL WENT OUT OF HER WAY TO INCLUDE THE OTHER IN HER PLANS.

THEY HELPED ONE ANOTHER WITH BEAUTY PREPARATIONS...

UNDER THE SURFACE CALM, HOWEVER A TEMPEST WAS BOILING!

LOUISE IS NOT FOOLING ME! THAT NEW COMPOSITION IS A LOVE SONG CREATED FOR JOHN!

LOUISE, ON THE OTHER HAND, FOUND SANDRA BUSY IN THE SMALL STUDIO HER FATHER HAD SET UP FOR HER.

A BUST OF JOHN! WELL!!

BUT WHENEVER THE CAPTAIN TOOK ONE SISTER HE TOOK THE OTHER...

THERE CAME AN EVENING WHEN THE CAPTAIN WAS NOT EXPECTED, SANDRA WENT TO HER STUDIO TO FINISH THE BUST. WHILE WORKING SHE GLANCED OUT THE WINDOW...

OH!... OH!

LOUISE AND JOHN STOOD IN A FOND EMBRACE THAT CRIED IT'S DEFIANCE BY IT'S VERY PENT-UP SILENCE.
IF SANDRA IS WATCHING... SHE'LL KNOW THE TRUTH! JOHN IS MINE! MINE! MINE!
IN HER MOMENT OF DEFEAT, SANDRA CAST ALL HER RESERVE ASIDE AND STOOD WITH RAW HATE BARED UPON HER HEART!
CRASH!
AIY-Y-Y! OWWW!
WHAT WAS THAT?

LOUISE! WHAT IS IT?
OH.. SANDRA! IT'S JOHN! COME QUICKLY!
WHAT STRUCK ME? I THOUGHT MY SKULL WAS CRUSHED!
JOHN, I SAW NOTHING! YOU SUDDENLY FELL TO THE GROUND!
COULD I HAVE DONE THAT? COULD I?... PERHAPS... THE BUST WAS OF JOHN!!...
AS LOUISE DREAMED OF LOVE SANDRA STALKED HER PREY, IN THE STRANGE SUBTLE MANNER OF THE EAST.
WHY SANDRA! THAT'S ME!
I CAN'T BEAR TO LOSE YOU DEAR! NOW YOU'LL ALWAYS BE WITH ME!
IT WAS ALMOST LOUISE'S WEDDING DAY, WHEN SANDRA FINISHED THE SCULPTURED LIKENESS OF HER SISTER. NOW SANDRA WOULD KNOW IF HER EFFORTS HAD BEEN IN VAIN. WITH A SHARP THRUST, SHE PIERCED THE SHOULDER OF LOUISE'S IMAGE...
AT THAT INSTANT, IN THE LIBRARY...
EEEE! OH, MY SHOULDER! MY SHOULDER!
ON THE WEDDING EVE THE FINISHED SCULPTURE WAS PLACED IN THE LIBRARY AND THEN THEN THEN THE STAGE SET...
IT'S AS IF I WERE LOOKING AT MYSELF SANDRA DEAR!
THANK YOU, DEAR.. OH, THE DOORBELL! THAT MUST BE JOHN!

AS LOUISE LEFT THE LIBRARY TO ANSWER THE DOORBELL, SANDRA DREW A KNIFE SWIFTLY FROM THE POCKET OF HER DRESS. ALL THE INJURED PRIDE AND HATE SHE HAD NURTURED FOR MONTHS WENT INTO ONE SWIFT THRUST.
DIE! DIE!
DIE
INSTANTLY...
OH...OH... OWWW!!
DARLING... WHY... LOUISE! WH..WHAT IS IT??
GOOD HEAVENS!!! WHAT HAPPENED?
SHE'S DEAD! SHE'S DEAD!

AFTER LOUISE'S FUNERAL, SANDRA'S FIRST ACT WAS TO REMOVE THE REMINDER OF HER SISTER.
CRASH!!

IF IN THE 6 MONTHS THAT FOLLOWED SANDRA HAD ANY PANGS OF CONSCIENCE, SHE CONCEALED THEM WELL. SHE BECAME THE ESSENCE OF SYMPATHY AND UNDERSTANDING TO JOHN UNTIL...

...I PRONOUNCE YOU MAN AND WIFE!

THE GROOM MAY NOW KISS THE BRIDE!

DARLING!

WAIT JOHN! LISTEN! THERE'S A PIANO PLAYING! DON'T YOU HEAR IT? PLAYING LOUISE'S SONG!

OH, COME, DEAR! I DON'T HEAR A THING! AND I'M WAITING TO KISS YOU!

THE MUSIC STOPPED THEN AS SUDDENLY AS IT HAD STARTED. JOHN KISSED HIS BRIDE AND RETURNED WITH HER TO THE COLONEL'S HOUSE, WHERE THEY DECIDED TO REMAIN.

HERE YOU ARE, MRS. MACGREGOR!

JOHN! LOUISE'S SONG AGAIN! IT'S COMING FROM THE LIBRARY!

GOLLY, DEAR, YOU **ARE** UPSET! COME! I'LL SHOW YOU IT'S JUST IMAGINATION!

JOHN, I KNOW SOMEONE IS IN THERE!

THERE, HONEY! NOW ARE YOU SATISFIED?

I'M SO CONFUSED! JOHN, I HEARD LOUISE PLAYING THE SONG SHE WROTE FOR YOU

BUT SANDRA WAS BEYOND ANSWERING. A BROKEN PIANO WIRE AND TWO GHOSTLY HANDS HAD COMPLETED THEIR WORK! INDEED THE FAR EAST WAS NO PLACE FOR TWO YOUNG GIRLS WHO WERE TOO SUSCEPTIBLE TO THE ***DEVIL'S HEX!***

THE END

# THE STONE MONSTERS

WEEKS PASSED AS DORION JOOST WORKED AT HIS TASK...
I DID NOT EVEN PLAN THESE FIGURES! THEY JUST GROW AS IF MY HANDS WERE GUIDED BY SOME STRANGE POWER!

AT LAST JOOST'S TASK WAS FINISHED...
AHH! I FEEL AS IF A WEIGHT HAS BEEN TAKEN OFF MY BACK!

A FEW DAYS LATER...
SO YOU'RE FINISHED! COME LET US SEE WHAT WE ARE PAYING FOR!
NO! YOU MUST NOT UNCOVER THEM UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN PLACED ON THE GUILD HALL ROOF!

TOMORROW YOUR GARGOYLES WILL BE REQUIRED! THE WORKMEN WILL BE HERE EARLY, SO BE READY!
YES! I ASSURE YOU, ALL WILL BE QUITE SATISFACTORY, DR. JANOS!

THE NEXT DAY AT THE GUILD HALL DEDICATION...
LET THIS NEW GUILD HALL BE A SYMBOL OF BOSNIA'S FREEDOM!

ONE-BY-ONE, THE VEILS WERE DROPPED FROM THE STONE STATUES!
FRIGHTFUL!
JOOST! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE? THOSE ARE GRUESOME GARGOYLES!

THEY ARE MONSTERS! AND SO LIFELIKE! THEY MUST BE CHANGED!
NO! THEY ARE MASTERPIECES! ARE YOU BLIND TO THEIR BEAUTY?

IF YOU DO NOT CHANGE THEM, I WILL HAVE THEM DESTROYED!
NO! NO! WAIT! GIVE ME A CHANCE TO THINK ABOUT IT!

LATER THAT EVENING...
IT IS NO USE! EACH TIME I SKETCH A FIGURE IT IS THE SAME AS THE STONE IMAGE I CREATED!

PERHAPS ONE OF THESE OLD BOOKS ON STONE CARVING WILL HELP ME!

WHY, THIS IS THE SKETCH BOOK OF MY ANCESTOR, ANDREAS JOOST. HOW STRANGE!
Sketch Andreas Joost

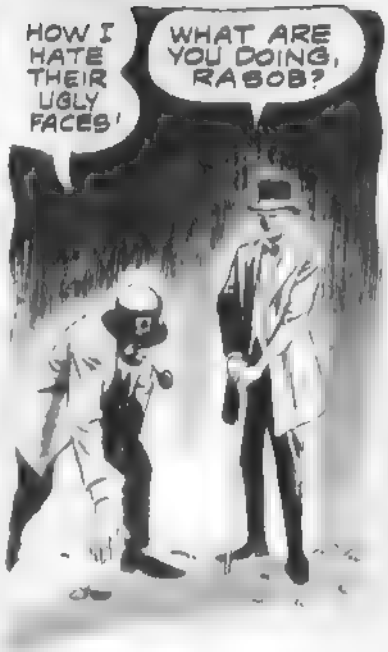
INCREDIBLE! THESE ARE THE EXACT GARGOYLES I HAVE CARVED! AND IT SAYS HERE: "CARVED OF STONE, YET ALIVE WITH EVIL! DESTRUCTION AWAITS THOSE WHO MEDDLE WITH THE GARGOYLES OF BOSNIA!" I MUST WARN THE COMMITTEE!

A HALF HOUR LATER...
SO YOU WILL NOT CHANGE THEM AND YOU BRING US THIS STUPID TALE! WELL THEN, THEY WILL BE DESTROYED TOMORROW!
I WARN YOU... IT WILL BE A DISASTER TO TAMPER WITH THEM!

THE NEXT DAY...
JOOST HAS WARNED THE COMMITTEE THAT EVIL WILL COME OF DESTROYING HIS CREATIONS!
NONSENSE! I WILL STRIKE THE FIRST BLOW! WATCH!

SUDDENLY...
AARRR! NO!
BENJAMO! THE MONSTER IS ALIVE!
I'M GOING MAD! I CANNOT BELIEVE WHAT I SAW! I MUST GET AWAY!
A CROWD GATHERS...
THIS IS PAST BELIEF! HE MUST HAVE SLIPPED AND FALLEN!
BUT I SAW THE MONSTER DO IT... STRANGLE POOR BENJAMO... OH-H!
BY KING HASSO, YOU ARE RIGHT! THERE ARE TEN CLAW MARKS ON HIS THROAT!
THIS IS JOOST'S EVIL DOING! SUMMON THE POLICE!
I DID NOTHING BUT CARVE THEM! LET ME GO!
YOU ARE THE DEVIL'S AGENT! YOU'LL HANG FOR THIS, JOOST!
TELL US HOW TO GET RID OF THEM, AND YOUR LIFE SHALL BE SPARED!
I AM NOT A MAGICIAN! I KNOW NOTHING OF THE BLACK ARTS OR HOW TO DESTROY THEM!
WE WILL ALL MEET TONIGHT AND TRY TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM!
I FEAR THAT ONLY JOOST CAN HELP US!

THAT NIGHT...
I SAY JOOST MUST BE HANGED!
THERE'S TIME TO HANG JOOST! WE MUST MAKE ONE LAST APPEAL TO HIM!


HOW I HATE THEIR UGLY FACES!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, RASOB?

A DIRECT HIT... HUH? WHAT IS THAT SOUND?
THAT GARGOYLE SCREAMED LIKE A FIEND IN AGONY!
YAARG!

IN HEAVEN'S NAME, LOOK, RASOB! THE GARGOYLES ARE LOOSE!
FLEE FOR YOUR LIFE!

YIII! I'VE STUMBLED! DR. JANOS, HELP ME!
I... I CAN'T! I FEEL THEIR SULPHUROUS BREATH ON MY NECK!

LET ME IN! OPEN THE DOOR! QUICK!
AARR!

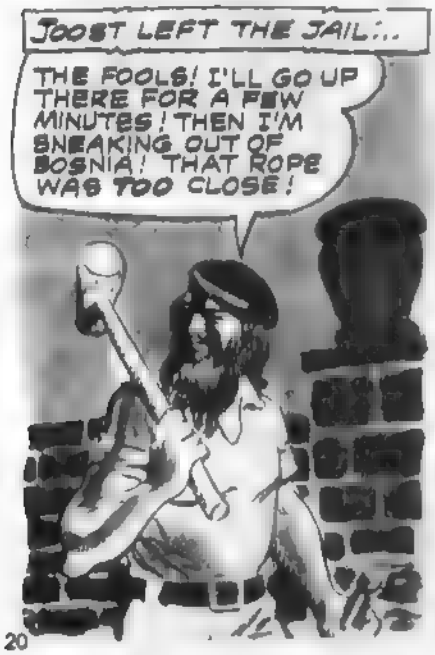
RASOB... THREW STONE! GARGOYLES DESCENDED AND CHASED US... RASOB WAS TRAMPLED!
HOW COULD IT BE? FETCH WATER! HE'S FAINTING!

WHEN DR. JANOS HAD BEEN REVIVED...
LOOK AT THOSE CURSED THINGS! THEY'RE GRINNING! IT WAS RIGHT HERE THAT RASOB FELL!
I SEE SOMETHING LYING IN THE STREET!

HE WAS CRUSHED TO A PULP... AS IF A STONE WALL FELL ON HIM!
POOR RASOB! JOOST MUST TALK TO THESE CREATURES!

LATER, AT THE JAIL...
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO? I HAVE NO CONTROL OVER THESE CREATURES!
YOU CREATED THEM! SPEAK TO THEM! IF THIS HAPPENS AGAIN YOU WILL HANG!

I WILL DO AS YOU SAY, MAYOR! BUT GET ME A BOTTLE OF BRANDY TO FORTIFY MY NERVES! OH, YES... AND ALSO A HAMMER!
GOOD! HO, GUARD! A BOTTLE OF MY NAPOLEON BRANDY AND A HAMMER!


JOOST LEFT THE JAIL...
THE FOOLS! I'LL GO UP THERE FOR A FEW MINUTES! THEN I'M SNEAKING OUT OF BOSNIA! THAT ROPE WAS TOO CLOSE!

WHAT CAN I POSSIBLY SAY TO THESE STONE FIGURES? I MUST TALK! THOSE FOOLS DOWN THERE ARE PROBABLY WATCHING ME!

GREETINGS, MY BRAIN CHILDREN! IT IS DORION JOOST COME TO DRINK TO YOUR HEALTH AND... BY LUCIFER... THEY ARE MOVING!

WHATEVER YOU BEASTS ARE, I IMPLORE YOU TO RETURN TO STONE OR YOU WILL BE DESTROYED!
YOU HAVE RELEASED OUR SPIRIT BURIED 900 YEARS AGO IN THE DESTRUCTION OF THE ANCIENT HALL!

WHAT DO YOU WANT OF ME?
OUR SPIRITS ARE TORMENTED! ONLY WITH YOUR DEATH CAN WE RETURN TO PERPETUAL STONE!

NEVER! I WILL DESTROY YOU ALL FIRST!
WE WILL CRUSH YOU TO DEATH, YOU FOOL!

HAREE! HE HAS DESTROYED OUR LEADER! KILL HIM!
BACK, YOU DEVILS! I MUST FLEE FOR MY LIFE!

BUT THEN...
THE ROOF IS COLLAPSING! NOOO!! HELP!!

THE GUILD HALL WAS IN RUINS WHEN THE HORRIFIED SPECTATORS RUSHED FORWARD...
TONIGHT WE HAVE WITNESSED A MOST HORRIBLE SCENE! WHERE IS DORION JOOST?
SOMEWHERE IN THE RUINS! THERE... I SEE HIM!

LOOK! DORION JOOST HAS TURNED TO STONE! AND HIS FACE... IT LOOKS LIKE A GARGOYLE!
FRIENDS! WE HAVE HAD OUR FILL OF GARGOYLES! I WILL SEE TO IT THAT HENCEFORTH THEY ARE OUTLAWED IN BOSNIA!
THE END

# CLAWS of HORROR

BUT I SHOULD HAVE GONE OUTSIDE WITH HIM...THINGS MIGHT HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT FOR CLIFTON...
HAH! WHO ARE YOU? WHERE'D YOU COME FROM?
I'M NOT REALLY A TIGER CUB, MR. SHAW! NOT REALLY!
YOU COULD HAVE ESCAPED THE CURSE! I GAVE YOU FAIR WARNING IN MY NOTE, YOU FOOL!
AAAAA
UNDER THE JUNGLE MOON THE CURSE WAS FULFILLED! WHAT COULD BE THE STORY BEHIND SUCH VOODOO? I WAS TO DISCOVER THAT ANSWER THE HARD WAY...
THE FOLLOWING DAWN FOUND ME AT THE COMMISSIONERS SIDE TRYING TO FIT THE PIECES OF MY STORY TOGETHER...
LOOKS LIKE HE'S BEEN SCRATCHED WITH SOMETHING, DOC!
IT DOES AT THAT!
I'LL HAVE TO HAND OUT THE BAD NEWS TO HIS BROTHER! THAT'S A TASK I DON'T RELISH!
I'LL COME ALONG TO SEE IF I CAN HELP, COMMISSIONER! NOT THAT I FEEL ANY MORE CAPABLE THAN YOU DO...
OUR GRIM NEWS HAD REACHED CLIFTON'S BROTHER BEFORE WE DID IN THE JUNGLE NEWS OF VOODOO CURSES TRAVELS FAST!
THIS IS JOHN WYTES, FRED...HE KNEW CLIFTON WELL...
SORRY TO MEET YOU UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES!
THANK YOU! THIS IS LINDA DAY, MY FIANCEE!
I'VE HEARD OF YOU, WYTES, AND OF YOUR STUDY OF CURSES. MY FAMILY SEEMS PLAGUED WITH THEM! MY FATHER LOST HIS LIFE ODDLY LIKE CLIFTON DID! IT WAS BELIEVED A JUNGLE BEAST GOT HIM...
PROBABLY ONLY A FREAK COINCIDENCE, FRED!

THERE WERE FORMAL QUESTIONS THE COMMISSIONER HAD TO ASK, AND AS WE WAITED FOR HIM SOMETHING OUTSIDE CAUGHT MY ATTENTION...

I'LL CONFESS I'M FRIGHTENED! I'LL PROBABLY BE NEXT... EXCUSE ME A FEW MINUTES...

CERTAINLY!

SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT THAT CAT... WHAT IS IT? GREAT SCOTT! NOW I KNOW! NO TRACKS!

I'D LIKE TO GET A CLOSER LOOK AT THAT KITTY, BUT WITHOUT BEING SEEN! IT'S NOT EXACTLY THE KIND OF CAT I'D CARE TO TANGLE WITH!

BAH! I'LL NEVER KEEP UP WITH IT. NOW, AND NOT BE HEARD OR SEEN! GUESS I'M OUT OF LUCK!

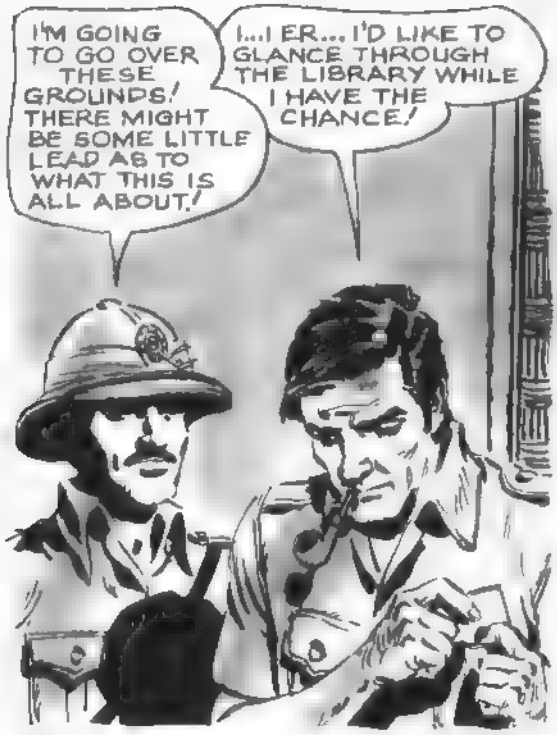
WHAT'S THIS? THE NOTE THAT CLIFTON SHOWED ME? BUT IT COULDN'T BE... THE COMMISSIONER HAS THAT ONE! IT MUST BE ANOTHER!

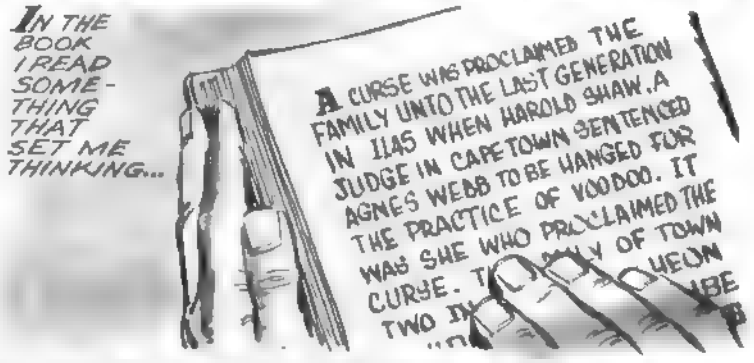
I STARED IN DISBELIEF, BUT THERE IT WAS! ANOTHER THREAT NOTE AS CLIFTON HAD RECEIVED!

Fred Shaw: not one in your family can escape punishment! The curse shall be fulfilled unto the last member!

OH, THERE YOU ARE, JOHN! I'VE GOT SOME NEWS! POISON *DID* KILL CLIFTON! A TYPE NOT USED FOR CENTURIES! THERE'S SOME OLD LEGEND ABOUT IT... SUPPOSED TO BE A VOODOO POTION THAT WAS A HIGHLY GUARDED SECRET!

VOODOO? THAT'S NO HELP TO US, IS IT?





AT THAT MOMENT I HEARD A HOARSE CRY... THE VOICE BELONGED TO FRED SHAW...

THE COMMISSIONER AND I SEEMED TO ARRIVE AT THE SPLIT SECOND! FRED WAS SOBBING...
WHAT'S WRONG?
A...A CAT WOMAN! SHE TRIED TO GET ME...LILLIAN CAME IN JUST IN TIME! IT DISAPPEARED AND LILLIAN FAINTED!
WHILE WE REVIVED LILLIAN AND COMFORTED FRED, I WONDERED WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO THE CREATURE...
BREW-BREW! MY TASK IS ALMOST COMPLETE BUT I SEE I MUST GET OTHERS OUT OF MY WAY TOO... ESPECIALLY THAT DOCTOR!
ENOUGH TIME HAS BEEN WASTED! TONIGHT I WILL DO THE ENTIRE BUSINESS, AND BE DONE WITH IT!
I THINK I MAY HAVE SOMETHING IN MY LABORATORY THAT COULD ASSIST US!
GO TO IT, JOHN!
NOTHING CAN HELP NOW! I AM DOOMED BY SOME SORT OF BLACK MAGIC!
WHAT I HAD TO DO TOOK OVER AN HOUR, BUT THEN I RETURNED TO THE SHAW HOME AND WENT IN TO THE LIBRARY TO WAIT... MY PLAN WAS UNDER WAY!
C'MON, TIGERS PAW, THIS WAITING ISN'T EASY ON THE NERVES...
AH...THERE IT IS! UNNATURAL LOOKING BEAST.. THOSE EYES...A GHOST CAT. GOT TO BE CALM NOW...

WHY DO YOU STAND IN MY WAY, STRANGER! MY BUSINESS IS WITH THE SHAWS!
I BELIEVE I HAVE POWER TO STOP ANY SUPER-NATURAL EVIL SUCH AS YOU MIGHT PERFORM!
YOU FOOL! I HAVE NO PATIENCE WITH SUCH NONSENSE! YOU DESERVE NO MORE THAN DEATH BY THE TIGERS!
THIS IS THE TEST... NOW WE'LL SEE WHAT HAPPENS...

HE WHO DEFIES THE ANCIENT VOODOO RITES, OR TRIES TO PREVENT THEM, SEALS HIS OWN DOOM!
C-CAN'T CATCH MY BREATH... G-GOT TO HANG ON... B-BUT EVERYTHING'S TURNING SO BLACK...

I HEARD HER SLINK DOWN THE HALL TO FRED'S ROOM... AS IN A DREAM STATE, THEIR VOICES WERE CARRIED TO ME...
AND NOW... THE LAST MEMBER OF THE SHAW FAMILY!
NO.. NO... HELP!

AS YOUR FOREFATHER CONDEMNED ME, SO HAVE I SENTENCED YOU ALL TO DIE! YOU ARE THE FAMILY AND GOOD RIDDANCE...
YOU ARE AGNES WEBB... HOW CAN THIS BE!?

...PERHAPS FRED'S SHOUTS DID THE TRICK. IN ANY EVENT, I SNAPPED OUT OF SEMI-CONSCIOUSNESS AND STAGGERED TOWARD THAT ROOM...
WHY SHOULD I TELL YOU WHAT IT TOOK ME CENTURIES TO LEARN?

IT TOOK ALL OF MY STRENGTH TO PULL HER AWAY, BUT YOU MUST REMEMBER, THIS WAS NOT A WOMAN, IT WAS A FULL FLEDGED TIGRESS! HER CLAWS LASHED OUT AND SHE SNARLED AND FOUGHT FURIOUSLY...
TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF ME, YOU FOOL!
THAT'S ENOUGH, AGNES WEBB, YOUR VOODOO SPELL HAS BEEN BROKEN!
THIS IS NOT THE COMMISSIONER YOU'RE THREATENING, IT'S JOHN WYTES, THE MAN YOU JUST CLAWED TO DEATH!
THE DOCTOR! NO, IT CAN'T BE YOU!
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED TO AGNES WEBB. I HAD DISCOVERED HER SECRET! I HAD BROKEN THE CHAIN OF HER OUTER WORLD POWER AND HER EVIL WAS NOW OF NO USE... I THEN ATTENDED TO FRED SHAW...
EASY NOW, FRED!
AM I SEEING THINGS? A GIANT TIGRESS JUST SEEMED TO BE IN THIS ROOM!
YOU SAW WHAT YOU SAW COMMISSIONER! NOW, FRED, YOU'RE OKAY!
YOU SAVED MY LIFE, DOCTOR! BUT HOW?
THERE'S REALLY NO MAGIC ABOUT IT! I MANAGED TO PUT TOGETHER AN ANTIDOTE TO THE POISON SHE BREWED UP FOR HER CLAWS! IT WORKED ON ME SO I KNEW IT COULDN'T HARM YOU THEN!
YOU BROKE A VOODOO SPELL! INCREDIBLE!
FANTASTIC, UNCLE JOHN! BUT I DON'T SEE HOW THAT TIES UP WITH THIS BOTTLE?
THAT BOTTLE CONTAINED THE ANTIDOTE! I KEPT IT... WELL... IN CASE! YOU SEE... EVEN I HAVE DOUBTS THAT HER SPELL WAS REALLY BROKEN!
THE END

THE HEADLESS ONES
NO! I'VE KILLED YOU ALL!
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT GAINING CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT WAS A CAUSE WORTH THEIR VERY LIVES, AND THEY FOUGHT FANATICALLY!
DEATH TO THE KING AND HIS FOLLOWERS!
AGRAGGRAAA!
AIEEEE! THE REVOLUTIONARIES!

AIEEEEE!
AGGGRRRAA!
YOU ARE TOO FOND OF THE KING, MADAM!
AS IN EVERY REVOLUTION THE LEADERS ARE THOSE WHO PLAY UPON THE EMOTIONS OF THE POPULACE. ONE WHO DRIVES THE CITIZENS TO VIOLENCE! THE MAN IN THE HOOD WAS ONE OF THESE!
DOWN WITH THE KING! THE PEOPLE MUST RULE!
OUI!
YAY!
THE MAN IN THE HOOD HAS AROUSED THE MOB TO A FEVER PITCH! ... TO A STATE WHERE SAVAGE MURDER IS NOT ONLY CONDONED, BUT DEMANDED!
YES! DEATH TO THEM ALL! BY THE GUILLOTINE!
OUI! BY HIS GUILLOTINE!
WORK QUICKLY! THERE ARE MANY MORE ROYALISTS TO BE ATTENDED TO! HA-HA! HA!
OUI!

AND THE REIGN OF TERROR IS WELL NAMED!
AGGGGRRRAAA!!
MORE! MORE!
LONG LIVE THE KING!
ONE LESS ROYALIST SWINE. HA-HA!
SPARE ME... PLEASE!
DEATH! DEATH! THE KINGS HEAD AWAITS US! HA-HA!
AND IN THE REVOLUTIONARIES PRISON NEARBY..OTHER ROYALISTS AWAIT THE GRIM CALL TO THE BLOOD-STAINED GUILLOTINE!
THIS WAITING! WHY DON'T THEY KILL US AND GET IT OVER WITH!
BLAME THE GUILLOTINE FOR BEING ABLE TO ACCOMODATE ONLY ONE HEAD AT A TIME!
I.. I FEEL FAINT! HOW CAN YOU BE SO CALM!?
I GUESS THIS RUNS IN MY FAMILY! MY FATHER DIED BY THE GUILLOTINE ALSO!

REALLY? BY THESE FILTHY REBELS?
NO...IT WAS YEARS AGO! HE WAS A REVOLUTIONARY WHO WAS KILLED BY OUR SIDE!

AND THE ROYALIST IS LED TO HIS DOOM AS WERE THE OTHERS!
BRING HIM ON! QUICKLY! THERE ARE OTHERS! HA-HA!

THE COLD STEEL BLADE DOES ITS CRUEL WORK AS IT HAS ON COUNTLESS OTHERS! BUT THE MAN IN THE HOOD NOTICES SOMETHING!
THAT LOCKET! SACRE BLEU! SHOULD HAVE RECOGNIZED IT!

THE OTHERS ARE WAITING!
THAT WILL BE THE LAST EXECUTION FOR TODAY, JEAN!

AND THAT NIGHT IN HIS OWN QUARTERS THE HOODED EXECUTIONER MEDITATES...OBVIOUSLY SHAKEN...
HOW COULD I HAVE DONE IT...AFTER ALL THESE YEARS!

THE MAN IN THE HOOD BROODS MOROSELY... BUT HIS BITTERNESS IS TRANSFORMED INTO SHOCK AS HE LOOKS UP AND SEES!
WHAAA... NO!
OUI MONSIEUR EXECUTIONER! I WAS ONE OF YOUR VICTIMS, REMEMBER?
BUT HOW DID... NO! IT CANNOT BE!
I--I MUST BE MAD!
NOT MAD! YOU ARE DIABOLICAL! YOU MURDERED WANTONLY IN COLD BLOOD!
NO! NO! IT ISN'T TRUE! I MUST BE DREAMING!
YOU HAVE KILLED US... BUT WHAT HAVE YOU GAINED BY OUR PAGAN MURDERS?
KEEP AWAY!
I'VE KILLED YOU ALL! LET ME ALONE!
YOU SHALL NEVER BE FREE FROM US HEATHEN!

THE MADDENED EXECUTIONER FLEES HYSTERICALLY THROUGH THE DARKENED CORRIDORS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY PRISON, BUT THE VISIONS PURSUE RELENTLESSLY
GO BACK, I SAY! YOU'RE DEAD! DEAD!
AIEEEEE! TRAPPED!
I KNOW WHO YOU ARE HIGH EXECUTIONER!
NO! NO...! I...
YES!
ALLRIGHT! THEN YOU KNOW! I AM YOUR FATHER!
THERE! SEE ME AS I AM!
SACRE BLEU! HIS HEAD!
HAVING REVEALED THE BLOOD-CURDLING TRUTH, THE INFAMOUS MAN IN THE HOOD CRUMPLES TO THE GROUND!
I KILLED HIM AND HE KILLED ME! WILL MAN EVER KNOW PEACE!?
THE END

DOMINATING! BOSSY! THAT WAS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO SISTERS! BUT SHE HAD TO BE THAT WAY... FOR SHE HAD TO KEEP HER YOUNGER SISTER...

# RESTRAINED...

YOU CAN'T WEAR A DRESS LIKE THAT, DORIS! IT'S *INDECENT!*

OH, MABEL, ACT YOUR AGE! THIS IS 1972 ..NOT 1900!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOT INTO YOU SINCE FATHER DIED... YOU'VE BECOME SO **BOSSY!**

BUT, DORIS, I'M ONLY DOING THESE THINGS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD...

I PROMISED FATHER WHEN HE DIED THAT I'D LOOK AFTER YOU, AND THAT'S THE REASON WHY I NEVER MARRIED!

ALONE IN HER OWN ROOM...
THE STUPID FOOL! SHE STILL DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT THE FORTUNE THAT WAS LEFT TO US! IF I COULD ONLY GET HER TO LEAVE THIS HOUSE, IT WOULD ALL BELONG TO ME!

THAT NIGHT DORIS BROUGHT HER BOYFRIEND HOME, AND...
MABEL, I WANT YOU TO MEET PHIL LONDON...
GLAD TO MEET YOU, MA'AM, I--
HUMPFH!

AFTER A FEW HOURS OF TREATMENT LIKE ICE FROM MABEL, PHIL GOT THE IDEA ...AND LEFT!
YOU TREATED HIM LIKE DIRT! NOW I'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN... THANKS TO YOU!
BUT COULDN'T YOU SEE HOW BENEATH US HE IS... I DID IT FOR YOUR OWN GOOD, DORIS!

THE NEXT MORNING AS DORIS PREPARES TO GO TO WORK...
BUT THE DOCTOR SAID I HAD TO HAVE THAT MEDICINE! PLEASE GO TO HIS OFFICE AND GET IT! I'LL CALL YOUR BOSS FOR YOU!
I GUESS I CAN TAKE THE DAY OFF! BUT BE SURE YOU TELL MY BOSS WHY I WON'T BE IN TODAY!

BUT THE NEXT DAY WHEN DORIS RETURNED TO WORK...
I'M SORRY, BUT WHEN YOUR SISTER PHONED YESTERDAY AND SAID YOU WERE QUITTING, I HAD NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO HIRE ANOTHER GIRL!
WHEN MY SISTER...? WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

BUT HOW COULD YOU DO THAT! HOW COULD YOU GO AND GET ME FIRED!
I DID IT FOR YOUR OWN GOOD! COULDN'T YOU SEE THAT JOB WASN'T FOR YOU!

THE NEXT FEW WEEKS MABEL'S CAMPAIGN WAS REALLY IN FULL SWING! NOT A DAY WENT BY WITHOUT SOME KIND OF AN ORDER FOR DORIS!
DO THIS!
DON'T DO THAT!
BUT HOW LONG COULD IT GO ON?
THIS IS THE END, MABEL! I'VE BEEN UNDER YOUR THUMB LONG ENOUGH!
YOU MEAN YOU ARE LEAVING?
NO, I'M NOT LEAVING! YOU SEE, MABEL, I'VE FOUND OUT THE TERMS OF FATHER'S WILL!
OH, NO!
BUT MABEL DIDN'T GIVE UP.. SHE STILL HAD PLANS FOR HER SISTER...
IF I CAN'T GET RID OF HER ONE WAY, IT'LL HAVE TO BE ANOTHER.. BY MURDER!
THAT'S RIGHT! I WANT SOMETHING THAT'LL DO AWAY WITH HER AND WON'T LEAVE A TRACE!
SMART! WITHOUT A BODY THERE CAN BE NO CRIME! YES, I HAVE JUST THE THING FOR YOU...!
AND THAT NIGHT AT DINNER...
HAVE SOME OF THIS WINE, DORIS -- IT'S GOOD FOR YOUR APPETITE!

I DON'T TRUST HER... SHE'S BEEN TOO NICE TO ME TODAY! SHE MUST BE UP TO SOMETHING!

NO SENSE IN TAKING ANY CHANCES... I'D BETTER SWITCH GLASSES!

UNSUSPECTING, MABEL DRANK THE WINE! THEN...

NO... NO... NO!

TABLES HAVE TURNED, HAVEN'T THEY, MABEL? NOW YOU'RE UNDER HER THUMB...!
THE END

# THE HEADS OF TERROR

GREED WAS THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND TOM LEWIS AND BOB RONON AS THEY ROAMED THE SOUTH SEAS LOOKING FOR EASY MONEY! THEN, WHEN THEY'D FOUND A FORTUNE, THEY WEREN'T GOING TO LET A SILLY SUPERSTITION STAND IN THEIR WAY! BUT THEY WEREN'T LAUGHING AND STARK TERROR FROZE THEM WHEN THEY FOUND THEMSELVES FACE-TO-FACE WITH THE HORROR OF HORRORS...

TOM LEWIS AND BOB RONAN CHARTERED A SMALL SAILING VESSEL AND WERE ABOUT TEN HOURS OUT FROM TAHITI...

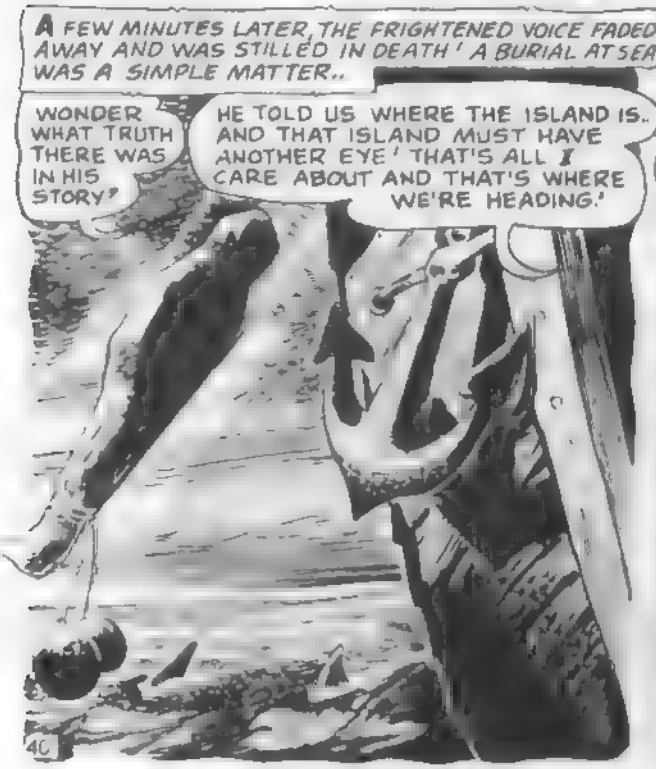
THEY TOOK THE MAN TO THEIR CABIN... IT WAS THEN THEY NOTICED THE MAN'S CLENCHED FIST...
HE'S NOT GOING TO LIVE MUCH LONGER!
WONDER WHAT HE'S HOLDING ONTO SO TIGHTLY!

HERE! GIMME THAT BAG!
NO! NO!! DON'T! KULA!

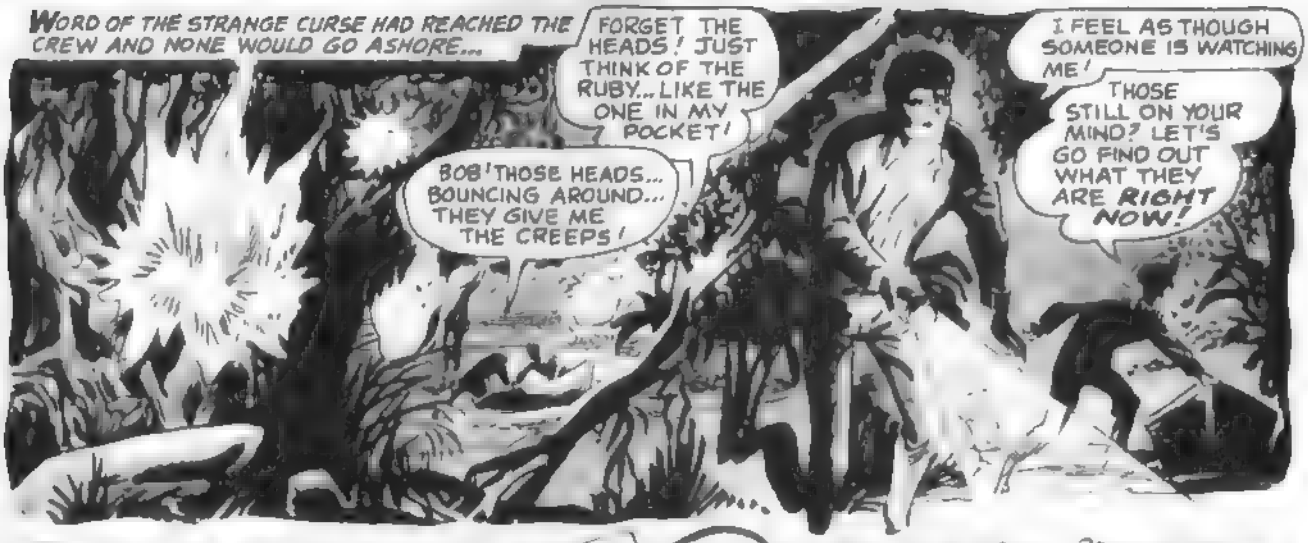
A RUBY! THE BIGGEST I EVER SAW!

WHERE DID YOU GET THIS?
FROM THE EYE OF THE IDOL KULA! BUT DO NOT GO THERE! I AM CURSED FOR TAKING IT, AND YOU WILL BE, TOO! THE RUBY IS EVIL!

STOP THAT BABBLING AND TELL ME WHERE THE RUBY CAME FROM! TELL ME!
THE STONE IDOL ON AN ISLAND... BUT BEWARE OF THE DANCING HEADS! THE DANCING HEADS!
SMACK


A FEW MINUTES LATER, THE FRIGHTENED VOICE FADED AWAY AND WAS STILLED IN DEATH! A BURIAL AT SEA WAS A SIMPLE MATTER..
WONDER WHAT TRUTH THERE WAS IN HIS STORY?
HE TOLD US WHERE THE ISLAND IS.. AND THAT ISLAND MUST HAVE ANOTHER EYE! THAT'S ALL I CARE ABOUT AND THAT'S WHERE WE'RE HEADING!

THE SMALL SAILING VESSEL FINALLY APPROACHED AN UNCHARTED DOT OF LAND...
BRING HER IN CLOSER! WE'RE GOING ASHORE!
NO, M'SIEU... WE DO NOT LIKE THIS PLACE! WE'RE STAYING HERE!


WORD OF THE STRANGE CURSE HAD REACHED THE CREW AND NONE WOULD GO ASHORE...
FORGET THE HEADS! JUST THINK OF THE RUBY... LIKE THE ONE IN MY POCKET!
BOB! THOSE HEADS... BOUNCING AROUND... THEY GIVE ME THE CREEPS!
I FEEL AS THOUGH SOMEONE IS WATCHING ME!
THOSE STILL ON YOUR MIND? LET'S GO FIND OUT WHAT THEY ARE RIGHT NOW!

THE TWO MEN PUSH THEIR WAY THROUGH THE DENSE JUNGLE GROWTH, COMING CLOSER TO THE STRANGE, DANCING LIGHTS THAT SEEM TO BE POISED... WAITING FOR THEM...
THEN...
I ALMOST WISH WE'D NEVER SEEN THAT RUBY!
STOP GIBBERING LIKE AN IDIOT! WE'LL HAVE THE ANSWER TO THIS THING IN A MINUTE!
L-LOOK!
L-LOOK!

BUT AS THEY TURNED TO RUN...
HEADS! THEY'RE ALL HEADS!
THEY'RE ALL AROUND US! WE CAN'T GET AWAY!
I'VE STILL GOT MY GUN! WE'LL SHOOT OUR WAY OUT!
I CAN'T STOP THEM... THEY KEEP COMING! THE BULLETS GO RIGHT THROUGH THEM!
THAT ONE... IT LOOKS LIKE THE MAN WE BURIED AT SEA!
BLAM
BLAM

W-WHAT DO YOU WANT? WHAT ARE YOU?
I TRIED TO WARN YOU! MEN WHO COME TO THE ISLAND AND STEAL FROM THE IDOL.. ALL THESE MEN ARE CURSED! THERE'LL BE NO REST FOR US! WE MUST WANDER LIKE THIS... UNTIL THE EYE IS RETURNED TO THE IDOL! YOU MUST RETURN THE RUBY!

RETURN THAT RUBY? NEVER! I'M GOING TO GET THE OTHER ONE!
DO AS THEY SAY, BOB! THEY'RE CLOSING IN ON US!
YOU, TOO WILL BECOME ONE OF THE CURSED!

SLOWLY THE UNEARTHLY CIRCLE MOVED IN MENACINGLY! HOURS PASSED, AND THEN AS DAYLIGHT APPEARED...
THEY'RE VANISHING. FADING AWAY!
IT'S DAYLIGHT! THE CAN'T HARM US EXCEPT, AT NIGHT!

WITH THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE HEADS, SOME OF TOM LEWIS' COURAGE RETURNED AND HE AGREED WITH BOB TO GET THE IDOL'S OTHER EYE AND LEAVE THE ISLAND!

THERE IT IS! LOOK AT THAT RUBY! WE'LL BE RICH!
YEAH... WE WILL! LET'S GET IT BACK TO THE SHIP!

LET'S MOVE FAST! I DON'T WANT TO HANG AROUND HERE ANY LONGER THAN I HAVE TO!
RELAX, WILLYA? WE'VE GOT ABOUT TWELVE HOURS OF DAYLIGHT AHEAD OF US! TIME ENOUGH TO GET OUR BOAT OUT TO THE SCHOONER!

BUT WHEN THEY REACHED THE BEACH...
IT'S GONE! OUR BOAT'S GONE! HOW WILL WE GET AWAY FROM HERE?
IT MUST'VE FLOATED OUT TO SEA! WE'LL HAVE TO TRY TO ATTRACT SOMEONE'S ATTENTION!

CAN'T YOU HEAR ME, YOU FOOLS! SEND A BOAT! SEND A BOAT!
YOU'RE WASTING YOUR BREATH, TOM! WE JUST HAVE TO SIT AND WAIT!

THE LENGTHENING SHADOWS BROUGHT PROMISE TERROR, AND TENSION GRADUALLY BECAME TOO MUCH FOR TOM'S FRAYED NERVES...
LET'S RETURN THE RUBIES, BOB! I'M AFRAID OF WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO US IF WE DON'T!
NOTHING'S GOING TO MAKE ME DO THAT! NOTHING!

TOM'S HAND MOVED SWIFTLY...
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THAT?
I WANT THOSE RUBIES RIGHT NOW! IF YOU WON'T PUT THEM BACK, I WILL!
THIS IS ALL YOU'LL GET FROM ME!
POW!
NOW YOU'LL NEVER GET YOUR SHARE! YOU CAN STAY HERE! I'M FINDING A COMFORTABLE SPOT!
NO, BOB! NO... DON'T LEAVE ME HERE ALONE!

BOB DISAPPEARED INTO THE JUNGLE, LEAVING TOM TO FACE THE NIGHT AS HE COWERED WITH HIS BACK TO THE SEA... HE SAW AGAIN THE HORROR OF THE NIGHT BEFORE...
AAEEEEEEE
BOB! BOB!

TOM RACED IN THE DIRECTION OF THE SCREAM AND STUMBLED ON THE STILL FORM HANGING IN THE VINES...
BOB'S DEAD! HIS HEAD IS GONE!!
I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY! OH--NO!
ALMOST DEVOID OF REASON, TOM RACED AT THE NARROWING CIRCLE AS IF TO BREAK THRU...THEN...
BOB! YOU...
HELP ME... PLEASE HELP ME!
TOM WHIRLED AND RUSHED BACK TO THE LIFELESS FIGURE!
I'VE GOT TO GET THE RUBIES! MUST RETURN THEM!
CLASPING THE RUBIES IN ANGUISHING HANDS, TOM PUSHED HIS WAY THROUGH THE JUNGLE, KNOWING THAT THE HORROR WAS CLOSE AT HIS HEELS...
I CAN'T LET THEM CATCH UP TO ME! THEY'LL KILL ME AS THEY KILLED BOB!
I FOUND IT! I FOUND THE IDOL OF KULA!

GET BACK! FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, GET BACK! I'M GOING TO RETURN THE RUBIES... DON'T YOU SEE?

THERE!

TOM TURNED BACK, HIS HEART BEATING MADLY, HOPING HIS ACTION WOULD BE PROTECTION AGAINST THE VEANGEANCE OF THE HEADS, AND...
TH-THEY'RE GONE! THE CURSE IS ENDED!

HE STUMBLED BACK THROUGH THE JUNGLE OUT TO THE BEACH... THERE ANOTHER SURPRISE AWAITED HIM...
THE BOAT! IT'S BACK! MUST'VE FLOATED IN ON THE TIDE!

WHERE IS M'SIEU RONAN? WHY'S HE NOT WITH YOU?
MR RONAN ISN'T COMING BACK, HENRI! LET'S GET AWAY FROM HERE!

AND SO THE GHOST HEADS OF KULA WERE AT REST FOR ALL TIME...OR WERE THEY?
I HEAR THERE ARE GREAT RUBIES ON THE ISLAND! MAYBE WE COME BACK AND FIND THEM, EH?
MAYBE!
THE END

# THE CAVE MONSTERS

MARCHIONNI

THEY TELL THE TALE STILL ON SCOTTISH MOORS NEAR THE TOWN OF CRAGHEAD! THE TALE OF RORY MACDONNEL... AND THAT NIGHT AT THE LION HEAD PUB...

LITTLE PEOPLE? LITTLE PEOPLE, IS IT, YOU FOOLS... QUAKING AT AN OLD WIVES' TALE! THERE ARE NO LITTLE PEOPLE!

RORY-- HUSH! YOU'VE HAD TOO MUCH TO DRINK!

HAVE I, NOW? THIS IS RORY MACDONNEL, AND I FEAR NO MAN, BIG OR SMALL!
WE KNOW, BUT MY FATHER FEARED CRAGHEAD CAVE AS HIS FATHER BEFORE HIM! WHO KNOWS WHAT LIVES INSIDE IT!
BAH! THERE ARE NO LITTLE PEOPLE! AND, IF THERE WERE, I'D STILL HAVE NO FEAR OF THEM!
A BRAGGART WAS RORY MACDONNEL!
YOU'RE A MAN OF RARE COURAGE, RORY... BUT IT SEEMS TO ME THAT WORDS SHOULD SURELY BE BACKED BY DEEDS!
DOES IT? WHO MIGHT YOU BE?
A STRANGER WHO HAS HEARD OF CRAGHEAD CAVE! YOU'VE BEEN INSIDE THE CAVE, I TAKE IT?
NOT HIM... THE BIG WINDBAG!
WHO SAID THAT?
WHAT MATTER? WHY NOT SHOW THEM? PROVE YOUR WORTH! THE CAVE IS NOT FAR!
AND D'YOU THINK I'M PLAYIN' CHILD GAMES?
YOU MIGHT BE HIDING YOUR FEAR BEHIND YOUR LOUD BLATHER!
WORDS ARE CHEAP, MY FRIEND! WILL YOU WAGER YOUR SILVER AGAINST MINE... THAT YOU FEAR TO SPEND THIS NIGHT IN CRAGHEAD CAVE!
PAF!
THE MEN WAITED FOR RORY TO REFUSE... BUT HE COULDN'T!
DONE! TWENTY SHILLINGS IS THE WAGER!
AGREED!

THEY POURED INTO THE NIGHT, BUT AFTER, THERE WERE THOSE WITH COOLER HEADS THAN THE REST!
FORGET THIS WAGER! NO MAN HAS ENTERED THE CAVE FOR YEARS!
THAT'S BECAUSE, UNTIL TODAY, NO MAN LIKE RORY MACDONNEL HAS PASSED THIS WAY!
WELL SPOKEN, MACDONNEL! BUT, OUR WAGER WAS THAT YOU SPEND THE NIGHT... INSIDE!
AND SPEND IT I WILL! I'LL BRING YOU OLD WOMEN A LITTLE MAN... FOR A PET!
GRAGHEAD CAVE WAS DOUR AND FORBIDDING!
I SHOULD HAVE BROUGHT A BOTTLE! CURSED PLACE... COLD ENOUGH TO FREEZE THE MARROW IN A MAN'S BONES!
COLD? T'WAS NOT COLD, BUT FEAR THAT CHILLED RORY! THEN SUDDENLY...
THE LITTLE PEOPLE! THE TALES ARE TRUE! THEY EXIST!
WOULD YOU RUN, THEN, MAN? WE WISH YOU NO HARM! MY WORD ON IT! COME... DRINK WITH US!
THEY WERE HORRIBLE! BUT, THEY SMILED! THEY WERE FRIENDLY, AND WHAT WAS IN THOSE FLASKS WAS A MAGNET TO RORY MACDONNEL!
'TIS MANY A YEAR SINCE ANY HUMAN DARED VISIT US! DRINK!
SO! THAT MAKES THINGS BETTER, EH? DRINK... WHY NOT, RORY! YOU ARE AMONG FRIENDS!

FRIENDS?
I HAVE TOLD YOU, NOT A FINGER SHALL TOUCH YOU! COME, JOIN THE DANCE!

THERE WAS NO MAGIC! THIS WAS NO EVIL! THESE LITTLE MEN... THEY KNEW THEIR BETTERS! SO REASONED RORY MACDONNEL!
IT'S A GOOD LIFE WE LEAD, IS IT NOT, RORY MACDONNEL? IT SUITS YOU WELL!
VERY WILL! BUT SOON DAWN COMES AND I MUST LEAVE!

BUT, THERE WILL BE OTHER NIGHTS! WILL YOU BE ONE OF US, THEN?
THAT I WILL! HERE IS MY HAND ON IT!

IT SEEMED TO RORY THAT THE FIRE LIGHT DIED... THAT THE UGLY FACES AROUND HIM TWISTED AND SNARLED...

HAS THE WINE CLOUDED MY EYES? YOU SEEM TALLER!
MAC DONNEL, WE HAVE NOT CHANGED! YOU HAVE!
EVEN THE COURAGE OF A BRAGGART DESERVES A REWARD...

...YOU ARE TRULY ONE OF US NOW!

GONE WAS HIS HANDSOME BODY! RORY SCREAMED... AND RAN!
THE LITTLE PEOPLE DO EXIST, EH, MACDONNEL?

THE WAY WAS DARK... THE ROCKS SHARP! MACDONNEL STUMBLED AND BLED! WHEN HE REACHED THE MOUTH OF THE CAVE THOSE WHO WAITED SAW THAT THIS WAS NO DREAM!

RORY! WHAT IS IT? WHAT HAPPENED IN THERE?
RORY, DON'T YOU KNOW US

RORY CHARGED -- KNOWING THAT HE MUST GET AWAY -- THAT HE MUST HIDE HIMSELF! AND, HOW COULD HE KNOW THAT THE GLASS HAD LIED!
THAT BLOOD! WHAT HAPPENED TO YO...
LOOK OUT! THE MAN'S GONE DAFT!

IT WAS A RAVING MANIAC WHO CURSED ALOUD ABOUT WHAT THE LITTLE PEOPLE HAD DONE TO HIM...
HE'S LOST HIS MIND! HE THINKS HE'S FOUND THE LITTLE PEOPLE AND BECAME ONE OF THEM!
PERHAPS HE DID! WHO KNOWS?

HE SHOULD HAVE NEVER CHALLENGED THE LITTLE PEOPLE! I'VE HEARD IT SAID THAT THEY NEVER REFUSE A CHALLENGE!

HE'S INSANE! HE'LL NEVER BE TELLING THE TRUTH OF WHAT HE SAW, NOW, WILL HE?
THE STRANGER WALKED AWAY AND SEEMED TO CHANGE! SO... THE TALE IS TOLD! AND... CRAGHEAD CAVE BROODS UNDISTURBED TO THIS DAY...
THE END

# RIVER of BLOOD

TOM, WE GOT TO DO SOMETHING! THERE MUST BE SOME LOGICAL EXPLANATION BESIDES THAT OLD LEGEND!
MAYBE SO-- BUT I'M BEGINNING TO GET A MITE SCARY MYSELF!
HURRY, DOCTOR-- MY LITTLE GIRL, SHE'S DYING!
COMING AS FAST AS I CAN, MR LEE... LOT OF FOLKS HURT!
THE PEOPLE WERE DESPERATE AND FRIGHTENED, NOT KNOWING WHEN TO EXPECT ANOTHER CATASTROPHE! THAT NIGHT WHILE THE PRARIE WIND MOANED SOLEMNLY FOR THE DEAD...
NOW, FOLKS, TOM AND I DECIDED IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA IF WE SEND FOR A SCIENTIST TO INVESTIGATE THESE STRANGE HAPPENINGS!
I TELL YOU IT'S ALL OUR GRANDFATHERS FAULT FOR BRINGING THIS CURSE ON OUR HEADS!
YOU'RE RIGHT-- IT'S THE ONLY THING TO DO! THAT-- OR GIVE THIS LAND BACK TO THE INDIANS!
AND, SOMETIME LATER IN WASHINGTON, D.C.
OH, MR. COLLINS.. HEY! BILL COLLINS! THE CHIEF WANTS TO SEE YOU, RIGHT AWAY!
HUH? OH, YES... BE RIGHT IN...
BILL, I'VE GOT AN INTERESTING LITTLE ASSIGNMENT FOR YOU! HERE'S A LETTER FROM A LITTLE TOWN OUT WEST CALLED BLOODY CREEK, SEEMS THEY'RE HAVING STRANGE RUMBLINGS UNDERGROUND, AND ODDEST OF ALL, CATTLE BEING POISONED BY WATER THEY CLAIM RUNS RED! INTERESTED?
SURE AM, CHIEF!
A FEW WEEKS LATER, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN..
I THINK I'LL TAKE A PRIVATE LOOK BEFORE I GO INTO TOWN! I GUESS THIS MUST BE THE CREEK THEY CLAIM RUNS RED WITH BLOOD!
HMMM! THIS WATER LOOKS PERFECTLY COLORLESS TO ME... HUH!!
BANG

OKAY, STRANGER, WHAT ARE YOU DOING **SNOOPING** AROUND MY LAND... AND PUTTIN' SOMETHING IN IT? **TALK FAST!**

L--LOOK, MY NAME'S BILL COLLINS..FROM **WASHINGTON!** YOU FOLKS **ASKED** FOR ME TO COME OUT HERE, I'M HIM!

I'M TAKING **NO** CHANCES WITH YOU, STRANGER...

EASY, RUFUS, THIS **IS** THE ONE WE SENT FOR! HE'S GOT A LETTER WE SENT TO **WASHINGTON,** AND IDENTIFICATION!

WELL, NOW... **PUT 'ER** THERE, SON!

YOU'VE GOT TO FORGIVE THE PEOPLE AROUND HERE FOR BEING A MITE **SUSPICIOUS!** IF WE RIDE OUT TO RUFUS' PLACE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE WHY!

ALL RIGHT!

**BY** NIGHTFALL, THEY REACHED THE PASTURELANDS! A **GRISLY** SIGHT AWAITED BILL AS HE SAW HUNDREDS OF **SKELETONS** GLEAMING DULLY UNDER THE FULL **GHOSTLY** WHITE MOON!

THIS IS ONLY A **SAMPLE** OF WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING--AND BEEN GETTING **WORSE** ALL THE TIME!

IT'S SO **DEATHLY** QUIET OUT HERE!

AIN'T ALWAYS THIS QUIET... **NO SIREE!** LOOK-A-HERE, BILL YOU STAY AT MY RANCH TONIGHT! NO SENSE GOING BACK TO TOWN!

**GRATE-FULLY** BILL TURNED IN EARLY THAT NIGHT AFTER THE LONG DAY! BUT ABOUT **MID-NIGHT** HE AWOKE **SUDDENLY!**

W...WHAT'S GOING ON HERE!!

UMMMMMBLE

**FINALLY,** THE TREMBLING HOUSE STOPPED SHAKING--BUT SOMETHING ELSE MADE HIS EYES **SNAP** OPEN IN **FRIGHT!** IN **HORROR,** HE GLUED HIS EYES TO THE SLOWLY OPENING DOOR!

WHAT WAS THAT!! **WHO'S THERE??**

Nooooo!

YOU CAME IN SO QUIETLY, RUFUS-- AND THAT HOWLING...
CAME IN QUIETLY-- THOUGHT YOU MIGHT HAVE SLEPT THRU IT! THAT AIN'T NOTHING BUT AN OLD COYOTE! BUT DID YOU HEAR THE RUMBLING?
IN THE BRIGHT SUNSHINE OF A WESTERN MORNING, BILL WAS ANXIOUS AS EVER TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THE STRANGE RUMBLINGS
BILL, I TELL YOU AIN'T NO SCIENCE GOING TO PUT A STOP TO THE GOINGS ON 'ROUND HERE! IT'S THE CURSE THAT OLD SQUANEE'S ANCESTORS PUT ON US!
NOW, POP, YOU KNOW THAT'S JUST A STORY!
I AM GOING TO START MY INVESTIGATIONS TODAY... MAYBE I'LL TAKE A RIDE OVER TO THE INDIAN RESERVATION AND SEE THE CHIEF!
I HAVE COME IN PEACE SEE YOUR CHIEF SQUANEE!
COME SQUANEE WILL SEE YOU!
WHEN BILL ENTERED THE CHIEF'S WIGWAM, IT WAS LIKE WALKING INTO A NEW STRANGE WORLD!
WHAT DO YOU WANT WHITE MAN?
GREAT CHIEF-- I HAVE COME TO HEAR FROM YOUR LIPS ABOUT THE CURSE ON THE PEOPLE OF BLOODY CREEK!
I CANNOT BELIEVE THAT THE WATER RUNS RED WITH BLOOD, AS YOU SAY!
SILENCE, I TELL THE TRUTH! SQUANEE SAW! LISTEN-- IT WAS LONG AGO WHEN I WAS A YOUNG BRAVE...
THE HOARSE VOICE OF THE OLD INDIAN MADE BILL COLLINS KEEP IN AWED SILENCE, AND HE UNFOLDED THE ANCIENT STORY TO HIM...
MY PEOPLE ARE GLAD TO BE AT PEACE WITH OUR WHITE BROTHERS!
I AM HAPPY THAT WE HAVE MADE THIS TREATY! THERE S NO REASON WHY THE RED MAN AND THE WHITE MAN CANNOT LIVE IN PEACE!

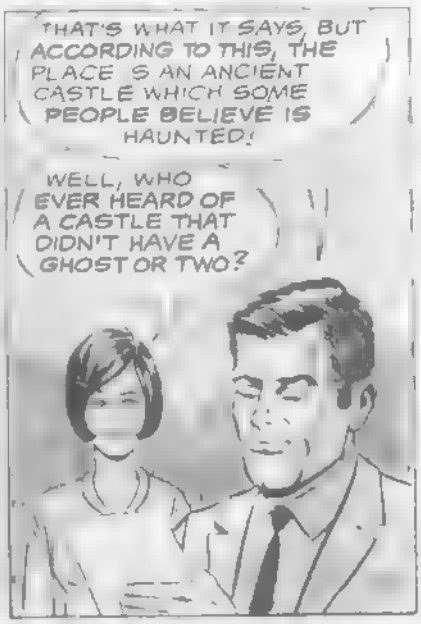
OH, FRANK-- I FEEL SO MUCH BETTER KNOWING THE INDIANS ARE OUR FRIENDS!
SURE, MARTHA! LOOK AT THE CHIEF'S SON PLAYING WITH OUR BOYS! I GUESS BOYS ARE BOYS NO MATTER WHAT COLOR THEY ARE!
BUT ONE BLACK DAY...
BUT, CHIEF, I TELL YOU IT WAS AN ACCIDENT! HE ATE SOME POISON AND HE THOUGHT IT WAS CANDY!
THE WHITE MAN SPEAKS WITH THE FORKED TONGUE OF THE SNAKE! GO! LEAVE MY DEAD SON HERE!
HEY, FRANK! LOOK!
THAT'S COMING FROM THE VICINITY OF MY PLACE!
FRANK, THIS IS HORRIBLE! IT'S THOSE BLASTED INDIANS--THEY DIDN'T BELIEVE YOU!
THEY'LL PAY-- I'LL MAKE THEM PAY FOR EVERY DROP OF BLOOD! EVERY DROP!!
"THE TWO CHIEFS MET IN THE VALLEY THAT IS NOW THE BED OF BLOODY CREEK, THERE TO DO BATTLE TO THE DEATH..."
GO GET 'EM FRANK!
SO IT'S JUST YOU AND ME!
YES-- ONE MUST DIE!

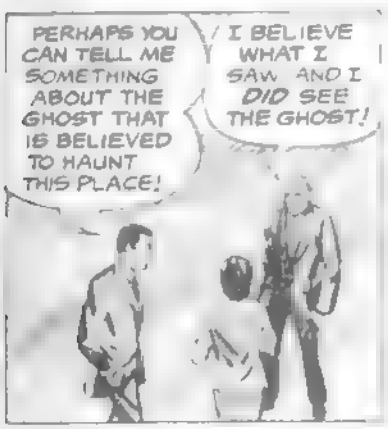
"AND AS IF THE EARTH ITSELF WAS TIRED OF THE BLOOD-SHED, SWALLOWED THEM UP! WHAT WAS ONCE THE BATTLE-GROUND IS NOW THE BED OF BLOODY CREEK, THE NOISES AND THE RED WATER SHOW THAT, THE GHOSTS OF THE OLD ENEMIES STILL BATTLE DEEP IN THE EARTH...

THE TALE OF SQUANEE HAD WEAVED AN HYPNOTIC SPELL AND IN BILL COLLINS' MIND HE SEEM TO SEE THE BATTLE OF THE PAST...
LOOK AT THAT! THE WATER IS RUNNING RED! I HAVE TO GET SOME OF THAT!
IT ALMOST SEEMS AS IF...!! BUT NO, IT CAN'T BE! I'VE LET THAT OLD INDIAN BULL-DOZE ME! NOW MY MIND IS PLAYING TRICKS ON ME!
WELL, BILL-- HAVE YOU FOUND OUT ANYTHING YET?
I...I'M TAKING THESE SPECIMENS BACK TO WASHINGTON WITH ME TO TEST!
WELL LET US KNOW AS SOON AS YOU CAN WILL YOU, BILL!
R DEALRS
ALL THE WAY HOME BILL TRIED TO FIGHT DOWN THE THOUGHT THAT HE HAD ACTUALLY SEEN SOME-THING IN THE WATERFALL! HE WAS CONVINCED THAT THE TEST WOULD TELL ALL...
WELL, BILL, MY BOY, DID YOU GET THAT MYSTERY CLEARED UP... HEY WHAT'S THE MATTER?
THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE... I'VE MADE THE TEST THREE TIMES... IT CAN'T BE... NO MINERAL IN IT...
WHAT ARE YOU MUMBLING ABOUT? SAY-- I THOUGHT YOU WERE RUNNING SOME TESTS ON THOSE SPECIMENS YOU BROUGHT BACK! WHAT ARE YOU DOING TESTING BLOOD!!!
YOU SEE IT TOO! THEN IT IS TRUE!
THE PEOPLE OF BLOODY CREEK NEVER HEARD FROM BILL AND SLOWLY THEY DRIFTED AWAY UNTIL THERE WAS NOTHING LEFT ALIVE IN THE TOWN! ONLY THE LONESOME SOUNDS OF WIND, AND THE COYOTE ARE HEARD, FOR NOTHING CAN LIVE ALONG THE BANKS OF BLOODY CREEK!
The End

# THE DEADLY DEMON

HIS HEART TREMBLED AS HE BEHOLD THE TERRIBLE APPARITION HIS BLOOD RAN COLD WITH DREAD AS ITS CLAMMY HANDS SEIZED HIM IN A GRIP OF DEATH! HE KNEW ONE WEAPON COULD SAVE HIM, BUT COULD IT BE USED IN TIME?





"KIVAN PLOTTED THE DEATH OF THE WOMAN'S HUSBAND AND ONE NIGHT WHEN THE OPPORTUNITY PRESENTED ITSELF HE KILLED THE MAN!

"THE TOWNSPEOPLE HEARD OF THE TERRIBLE DEED, AND THEY CONVERGED UPON THE CASTLE TO EXACT PUNISHMENT UPON HIM!"
THEY SEEK TO TAKE MY LIFE! I MUST HIDE!

"BUT THE ENRAGED CITIZENS FIRED THE TOWER--"
DESTROY THE EVIL ONE!
DEATH TO THE MUDEROUS SWINE!

"THE WICKED TYRANT WAS TRAPPED IN A PRISON OF HIS OWN MAKING! HE PERISHED IN THE FLAMES!"

EEEEK!
"THE CENTURIES ROLLED BY, BUT THE SPIRIT OF KIVAN THE TERRIBLE COULD FIND NO REST! DOWN THROUGH THE AGES, HIS GHOST HAS HAUNTED THE CASTLE!"

AS THE OLD MAN CONCLUDED HIS NARRATIVE, I LOOK AT HIM AND SAID...
THAT'S A VERY CHILLING STORY, CLEM, BUT IT'S TOO FANCIFUL TO BE TRUE!
BUT IT'S ALL TRUE! I SAW THE GHOST SEVERAL TIMES!

DAWN AND I TOOK UP RESIDENCE IN THE ANCIENT EDIFICE!
I CAN CARRY ON MY WORK FROM HERE FOR THE NEXT FEW WEEKS! THEN MAYBE I'LL SELL IT WHEN MY TITLE IS CLEAR!

WE PROCEEDED TO EXAMINE THE CASTLE AND...
GOOD HEAVENS
AIEECH!

OH, IT'S HORRIBLE, JIM! SOMEONE MUST HAVE KILLED HIM AND HID THE BODY HERE!
NO! NOTICE HIS EYES, HOW THEY BULGE! I THINK THIS MAN WAS [illegible] TO DEATH!

NIGHT AFTER NIGHT, THE HORRIBLE MOANING SMOTE UPON OUR EARS, AND EACH TIME I ENTERED THE CORRIDOR IT WAS EMPTY!

I DIDN'T ANSWER DAWN'S COMPLETE QUESTION;... THE NEXT NIGHT, THE FRIGHTFUL INCIDENT WAS REPEATED!

EVERY NIGHT WE WERE AWAKENED BY THE TERRIBLE SCREAMS AND MOANS! BUT THE CLIMAX CAME WHEN WE HEARD THE CLANKING AND SCRAPING OF CHAINS MOVING THROUGH THE HALL...

DAWN DRIVEN TO THE VERGE OF DESPERATION SLIPPED QUIETLY FROM THE BEDROOM...
I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT WHAT IT IS! I CAN'T STAND THIS TERRIBLE SUSPENSE!

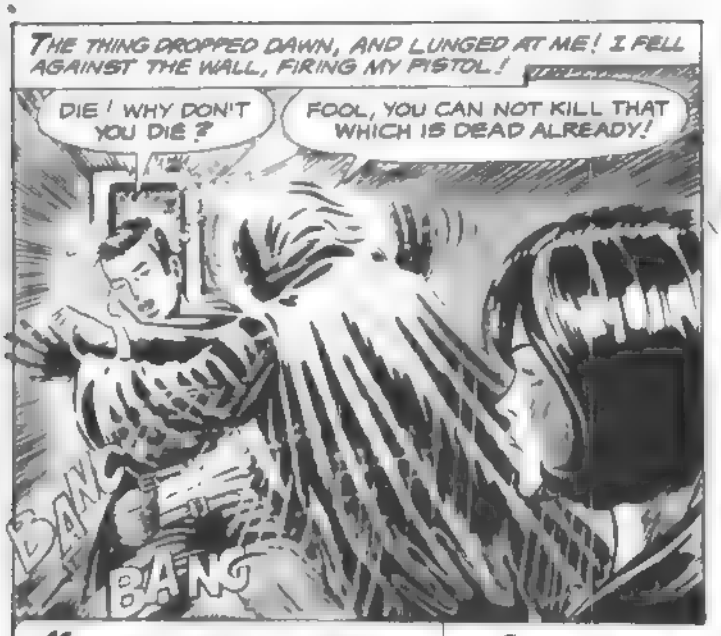
SHE TOOK UP A POSITION BEHIND AN ANCIENT SUIT OF ARMOR AND WAITED...
HE'S COMING! I CAN HEAR THE CLANK OF CHAINS IN THE DISTANCE! WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S GETTING CLOSER! IT'LL BE HERE IN ANOTHER MOMENT!

THE NIGHT WAS SUDDENLY RENT BY A FRIGHTFUL SCREAM
AIEECH!
DAWN, DAWN!
CRASH

I'M COMING DAWN!
I SPRANG INTO THE CORRIDOR, I KNEW DAWN MUST BE IN THE CLUTCHES OF SOME NAMELESS HORROR! THE HALL WAS DESERTED, BUT AGAIN I HEARD HER SCREAM ...
AIEECH!

I BURST INTO THE TOWER, AND I BEHELD THERE A SIGHT WHICH SENT STARK TERROR COURSING THROUGH MY FRAME! THE FRIGHTENED GIRL WAS STRUGGLING IN THE EMBRACE OF A SPECTER...
YOU CHOSE TO IGNORE THE WARNING GIVEN YOU, MORTAL, AND THUS YOU PAY FOR YOUR FOLLY WITH YOUR LIFE, AND THE LIFE OF THIS MAID!

I FOLLOWED HER CRIES! THE NOXIOUS ODOR OF SMOLDERING CLOTH WAFTED TO MY NOSTRILS!
JIM, JIM!


THE THING DROPPED DOWN, AND LUNGED AT ME! I FELL AGAINST THE WALL, FIRING MY PISTOL!
DIE! WHY DON'T YOU DIE?
FOOL, YOU CAN NOT KILL THAT WHICH IS DEAD ALREADY!
BANG
BANG

I CAN'T BREATHE
AND THUS YOU DIE, MORTAL!

MY HAND SUDDENLY CLOSED UPON THE HILT OF A DAGGER, AND I SLASHED AND HACKED AT THE THING WITH IT!
NO! NO! IT IS THE BLADE I USED TO MURDER REBECCA'S HUSBAND! IT HAS BECOME A WEAPON OF JUSTICE!

AS I TRANSFIXED THE ECTOPLASMIC HEART OF THING, IT SUDDENLY SCREAMED HORRIBLY, AND VANISHED IN A SHEET OF FLAME!
NO, NO! THE ETERNAL FLAMES ARE ENVELOPING ME! MY DOOM IS SEALED! AAAGH!

AND THEN, THE TOWER EXPLODED!
BOOM

THE SUN WAS SHINING WHEN WE CAME TO! WE WERE LYING AT THE FOOT OF THE TOWER AMID SCATTERED DEBRIS!
IT - IT COULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED WE MUST HAVE IMAGINED THE WHOLE THING!
NO, IT DID HAPPEN! IT WASN'T IMAGINATION!

JIM, THE KNIFE YOU USED ON THE GHOST! LOOK IT'S SMOLDERING!
YES, AND IT'S EMITTING THE SAME ODOR OF BURNT RAGS THAT SURROUNDED THE GHOST... AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, I NO LONGER DOUBT THE EXISTENCE OF THE SUPERNATURAL!
The End

# REINCARNATION

BAH! MY SON JOHN IS A NINNY! WHAT HAVE I DONE WRONG? IF ONLY HE WOULD SHOW INTEREST IN SOMETHING ELSE BESIDES THOSE OCCULT BOOKS! BUT, NO, --NOT HIM! A FIRST CLASS BOOKWORM!

...EH, WHAT'S THIS?...SPORTS COMPETITION...IF I TOOK HIM, MAYBE HE'D SHOW INTEREST IN SPORTS!
SEE THE PAN-AMERICAN SPORTS COMPETITION in TRINIDAD

LATER...
YOU HEARD ME, WE'RE GOING TO TRINIDAD! I FIGURE WE BOTH NEED A VACATION!
TRINIDAD?! OF COURSE I'LL GO!
BUT NOT BECAUSE OF THE GAMES! THE GREAT PUNJA IS THOUGHT TO LIVE ON THE ISLAND!

A FEW DAYS LATER, FATHER AND SON WING TOWARD THE ISLAND OF TRINIDAD...
...ONCE WE ARRIVE, I MUST FIND PUNJA...THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS HE CAN TELL ME!

AFTER THE PLANE LANDED JOHN WENT IN SEARCH OF THE OCCULT MASTER, PUNJA!
CAN YOU TELL ME WHERE PUNJA, THE MYSTERIOUS ONE LIVES?
THE MYSTERIOUS ONE? ONLY A FOOL WOULD GO TO THE CASTLE ON THE HILL! IT'S BETTER TO STAY AWAY FROM HIM!

BUT JOHN WOULD NOT HEED THE WARNING AND A SHORT WHILE LATER HE FOUND THE CASTLE ON THE HILL...

THE MASTER AWAITS YOU, JOHN!
WHAT? HOW DID HE KNOW I WAS COMING? ... HOW?

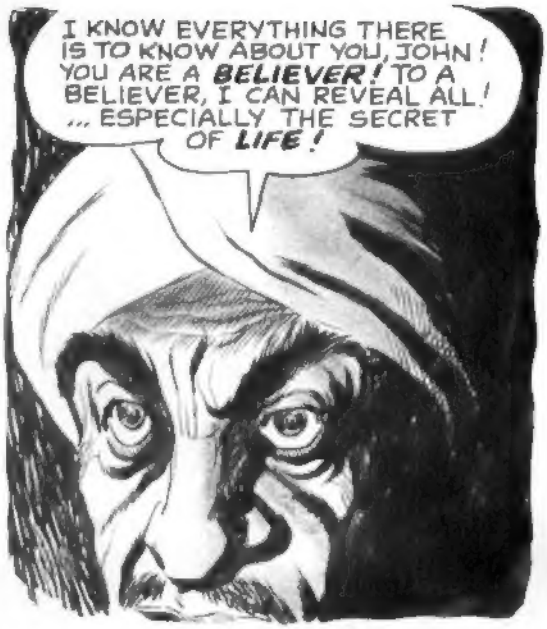
THERE ARE NO SECRETS TO PUNJA! HE KNOWS EVERYTHING!

I MUST LEAVE YOU NOW! THE MASTER WILL SUMMON YOU!
UNBELIEVABLE! HOW DID HE KNOW I WAS COMING?

BUT THE OCCULT WORKS IN A MYSTERIOUS MANNER AND AT THAT INSTANT...
VOOM

JOHN!

THIS IS AMAZING! HOW DO YOU KNOW ME BY NAME?
DO NOT BE AWESTRUCK, JOHN... I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU!


I KNOW EVERYTHING THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT YOU, JOHN! YOU ARE A BELIEVER! TO A BELIEVER, I CAN REVEAL ALL! ... ESPECIALLY THE SECRET OF LIFE!

...WE ARE REINCARNATES OF LIFE PASSED! YOUR FUTUTURE, JOHN... IS LAID OUT FOR YOU IN THE BOOK OF DESTINY!

TO ACHIEVE IMMORTALITY ONE MUST READ HIS OWN BOOK OF DESTINY, FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS ... NOT TO DO SO, WILL MEAN YOU WILL FORFEIT YOUR SOUL TO THE DEVIL!

THEN IT'S TRUE, I AM THE REINCARNATION OF AN ANCIENT PERSON?
YES, AND IMMORTALITY IS YOURS, IF YOU AGREE TO THE SECRET OF YOUR BOOK OF DESTINY!

OF COURSE I AGREE! I WILL FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS EXACTLY!
GOOD! THEN I WILL SHOW YOU YOUR BOOK THAT HAS BEEN KEPT IN THE VAULT OF LIFE!

The NEXT DAY...
I'M GLAD YOU GOT OUT OF THAT HOTEL ROOM! C'MON, SON... LET'S ENJOY THE EVENTS!
OKAY, DAD!
IF ONLY YOU REALIZED THE POWER I HOLD BETWEEN THE COVERS OF THIS BOOK!
JOH

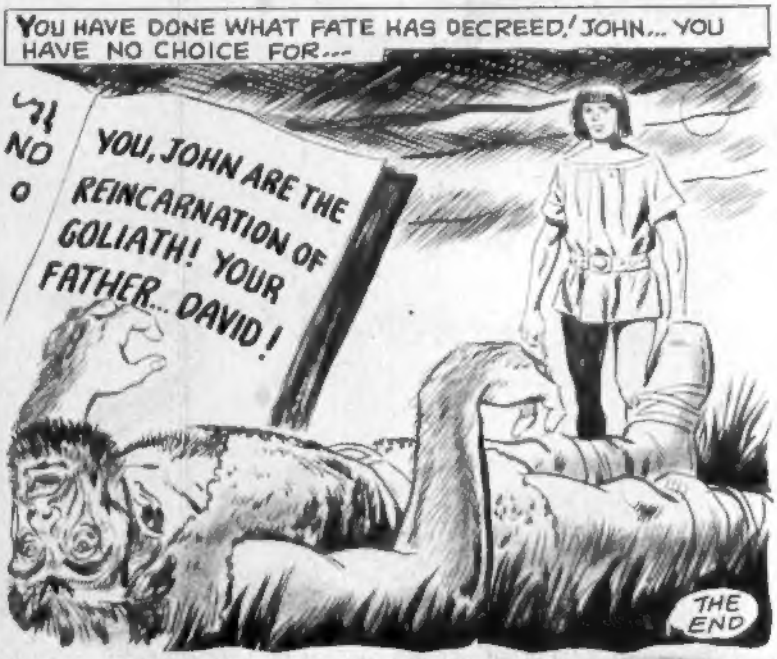
I ARRANGED FOR US TO WATCH FROM HERE! JOHN, YOU'RE STILL READING THAT ABSURD BOOK!
...SORRY, DAD!... (SOMETHING KEEPS FORCING ME TO READ... AND I MUST LOOK AT THE LAST PAGE!)

JOHN WAS SHOCKED WHEN HE LOOKED AT THE LAST PAGE!
KILL YOUR FATHER!

I MUST OBEY! KILL! KILL! YOU MUST DIE--NOW!
JOHN, PUT THAT DOWN! HAVE YOU GONE CRAZY?

SEEING THE EXPRESSION ON HIS SON'S FACE, THE FATHER HAD NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO...

MY SON! MY SON! WHAT HAVE I DONE?
WHACK!


YOU HAVE DONE WHAT FATE HAS DECREED! JOHN... YOU HAVE NO CHOICE FOR...
NO
YOU, JOHN ARE THE REINCARNATION OF GOLIATH! YOUR FATHER... DAVID!
THE END